

Orange and Union Streets Neighborhood Study  
Andrew Myrick House  
16 Orange Street  
Nantucket  
Nantucket County  
Massachusetts

HABS No. MASS-1067

HABS  
MASS  
10-NANT  
76M-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

ORANGE AND UNION STREETS NEIGHBORHOOD STUDY  
ANDREW MYRICK HOUSEHABS  
MASS10-NANT-  
76M-

Location: 16 Orange Street (on east side), Nantucket,  
Massachusetts

Present Owner: Edgar V. Seeler

Present Occupant: Edgar V. Seeler

Present Use: Seasonal occupancy.

Brief Statement  
of Significance: A mid-eighteenth century house; part of the Orange  
and Union Streets Neighborhood Study (MASS-1014).

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

## A. Physical History:

## 1. Original and subsequent owners:

- 1755 -- Andrew Myrick bought land from Peter Coffin for 45 pounds, 6 shillings and 8 pence, and built his home.
- 1792 -- House was divided among the heirs of Andrew Myrick.
- 1827 -- Andrew Myrick, Jr. bought from the other heirs.
- 1827 -- Job Coleman, 2nd, from Andrew Myrick, Jr. for \$1750.
- 1832 -- George F. Joy bought from Job Coleman, 2nd.
- 1876 -- Charles G. Coggeshall inherited from Mary F. Joy.
- 1903 -- Grace LeBaron Upham bought from Phebe M. Coggeshall, widow of Charles G. Coggeshall.
- 1909 -- Sidney Page Laughlin bought from Grace LeBaron Upham.
- 1929 -- Leila L. Carlisle by deed from her mother, Sidney Page Laughlin.
- 1940 to date -- Edgar V. Seeler by deed from Leila L. Carlisle.
- (Abstract: Records Registry Deeds, Nantucket, Mass.)

2. Date of erection: c. 1755.

3. Architect: None

4. Original plans, construction, etc.: None known. It was typical of the type of house built in this section and is similar to 18 Orange Street (MASS-1023). An interesting feature of this dwelling is the huge garret.
5. Notes on alterations and additions: Additions have been made to the rear of the house, which has been made comfortable for modern living.

The Col. Brayton house to the south of this one was taken down, making room for the attractive garden area.

B. Historical Events Connected with the Structure:

When the town was moved, c. 1715 - 1720, from the section around Capaum Pond to the present location, it was known for a while as Wesco. Wesco was then laid out by the Proprietors into five squadrons, each of them 8 rods wide and 80 rods in length; each squadron contained 4 lots, being 2 rods wide each. The elevation on Orange Street was in the part known as Fish Lot Shares and this house is in Fish Lot Share No. 4.

This east side of Orange Street in this section was known as Quanaty Bank, an Indian name for a bluff.

This property remained in the Myrick family from 1755 to 1827. Andrew Myrick was a store-keeper. He married in 1753 and built his home two years later. When he died in 1783 his estate was valued at 2780 pounds.

One of the family, Captain Peter Myrick, is said to have sailed from Nantucket in 1833 in Sloop Fame in search of Sea-serpents. He "returned empty".

(Abstract: Nantucket: A History by Douglas L. Lithgow.)

C. Sources of Information:

Old Views: Two old photographs showing Orange Street and front steps of this house in Fifty Glimpses of Nantucket Island by J. H. Murphy, New York and Chicago: Rand McNally, 1897; drawing of Orange Street in Nantucket Sketchbook by Edwin Ebermann, Nantucket: S. F. Baker, 1946; Plot, Land Court Plan 11438B, filed with Certificate of Title, #1596. (Registry Deeds, Nantucket, Massachusetts).

Prepared by Mrs. Marie M. Coffin  
Nantucket, Massachusetts  
July 1970

PART II. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were prepared as part of the Orange and Union Streets Neighborhood Study (MASS-1014) made in the summer of 1970 by the Historic American Buildings Survey on Nantucket, Massachusetts. This is the fifth summer project of a continuing HABS comprehensive survey of the early architecture and urban design of Nantucket financed by a grant from the Nantucket Historical Trust.

The project was under the general supervision of James C. Massey, Chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Project Director was Professor F. Blair Reeves, A.I.A., of the University of Florida. Historical information was provided by Mrs. Marie M. Coffin of Nantucket, Massachusetts. Photographs are by Jack E. Boucher of Linwood, New Jersey. The material was edited for deposit in the Library of Congress by Mrs. Constance Werner Ramirez, August 1971.